

# News from the Illinois Commerce Commission

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## **ICC approves highway-railroad improvements in Rockford**

The Illinois Commerce Commission has approved plans for a rail improvement project involving the installation of automatic flashing light signals and gates at the Horsman Street, Auburn Street and School Street grade crossings of the Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Company's track in Rockford, Winnebago County.

The total estimated cost to install the new automatic warning devices is \$493,015. The Grade Crossing Protection Fund will be used to pay 90 percent of the warning device installation costs, not to exceed \$443,713. The City of Rockford will pay 5 percent of the installation costs, not to exceed \$24,650. The Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Company will pay all remaining installation costs, as well as all future operating and maintenance costs. The project must be completed by August 30, 2007.

### **ABOUT THE GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION FUND (GCPF)**

Project selection and management of GCPF highway-rail safety projects include safety improvements such as the installation of new warning systems, highway approach improvements and the construction/reconstruction of grade separation structures. The Commission administers the GCPF, which is funded by motor fuel tax money designated for rail safety improvements.

The General Assembly appropriates \$27 million annually for GCPF projects.

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